(b) whether it is also a fact that the ward is yet to be constructed; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons for delay in starting the AIDS Ward?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) An amount of Rs. 20.00 lakh has been released to All India Institute of Medical Sciences for purchase of equipment and meeting the expenditure on staff salaries in respect of the AIDS Unit.

(b) and (c) A separate physical facility for management of AIDS cases has been established at the 1st floor of the D-Wing of the AIIMS with a self contained laboratory.

The delay in starting the AIDS Unit is due to the fact that he Laboratory Assistant and Clinical Fellow selected did not report for duty necessitating fresh recruitment. However, the posts of AIDS educator-cum-counsellor, staff nurses, nursing orderly and sweeper have been filled.

Pending the commissioning of AIDS Unit, arrangements have been made to provide medicare facilities including 'home' based care to HIV infected patients suffering from AIDS disease as well as other opportunistic infection.

Difficulties of small investors in investing in shares, debentures of public limited companies

@2077. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the difficulties being faced by the small investors in investing in shares, debentures and deposits in public limited companies as reported in the Economic Times of 8th June, 1990; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to remove the difficulties of small investors?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Sufficient safeguards have been provided, *inter alia*, under the provisions of Sections 73, 111 and 113 of the Companies Act 1956, to protect the interests of investors. The discloure provisions made in section 217 and Schedule VI to the Act are also considered as adequate to enable the shareholders to ascertain the financial position and state of affairs of a company. Under section 621 of the Act, a shareholder is entitled to file prosecution against the defaulting company.

Requirement of Kerosene oil in Orissa

2078. SHRI KAHNU CHARAN LENKA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the monthly requirement of kerosene oil in Orissa and how much was allotted to the State during the year 1988, 1989 and upto May, 1990;

(b) whether the actual supply was less than the allotments made; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (c) The requirements of the States/UTs including Orissa are assessed by allowing suitable growth rate over the allocations made in the corresponding period of the previous year, and allocations are made accordingly.

@Previously Unstarred Question No. 3049 transferred from 16th August, 1990.